

WiPort Device Server

Frequently Asked Questions

Author: Michael Kuch
Department: Marketing

Created: March 10, 2004
Last edit: May 28, 2004

Q1: What is WiPort?

A1: WiPort is the first in a line of wireless device servers. WiPort eliminates the complexity of adding wireless networking to a device and providing a fully integrated solution that combines a processor, memory, 802.11b transceiver, and dual high-speed serial ports in a single module. WiPort offers both wired and wireless LAN interfaces, offering device manufacturers the flexibility to quickly incorporate networking into their products. WiPort includes a robust operating system with embedded Web- and device-server functionality, full TCP/IP protocol stack, WEP/WPA and AES security, all in a compact form factor smaller than a matchbook: measuring approximately one inch on a side

Q2: What are the key features of WiPort?

A2:

- 802.11b wireless interfaces
- 2 serial interfaces
- 128-bit WEP encryption
- WPA security (firmware upgrade)
- Both wired and wireless connection
- Future proof for other wireless protocols
- Upgradeable to support other serial interfaces

Q3: Why would you want to add wireless?

A3: There are many applications where it is impractical to run wire to connect a device to a network. Many industries including Medical, Retail, Security, and Building Automation have applications that will only work with wireless.

Q4: Why 802.11 and not Bluetooth?

A4: There has been a large build out of 802.11 wireless networks. There are many large companies supporting 802.11 wireless, including Cisco, Dell, Compaq, Intel, IBM, and more. Bluetooth has a limited communication range and therefore it is difficult to transmit data long distance. Bluetooth has been adopted as a communication protocol of peripheral devices such as mobile phones and headsets.

Q5: When will WiPort be available?

A5: WiPort launched at the Embedded System Conference in San Francisco at the end of March. Production began at the end of May.